GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3065
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2015
Inland Waterways Transport
Parthipan Shri R.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated an action plan for fast track development and use of inland waterways transport involving private and State-run companies;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether an agreement has been signed between the National Thermal Power Corporation and Inland Waterways Authority of India in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the present status of the said plan and follow up action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)&(b):Inland Waterways Authority of India(IWAI) is executing Jal Marg Vikas Project to enable plying of about 1500 DWT commercial vessels on Haldia-Allahabad stretch of National Waterwyas-1 (NW-1) with technical and financial support of World Bank. Development of fairway in the stretch of Dhubri-Dibrugarh of NW-2 by providing 2.5 meter Least Available Depth (LAD) is also being undertaken to facilitate commercial navigation. NW-3 (Kottapuram-Kollam) is fully operational and is being utilised for commercial navigation. These measures are intended to provide opportunities to ply vessels by private/State run companies on these NWs.
(c)&(d):A tripartite agreement between National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and M/s Jindal ITF was executed for transportation of three million tonnes of imported coal per year from Sandheads, Bay of West Bengal to NTPC Power Plant at Farakka for seven years. M/s Jindal ITF Ltd. developed the project which interalia includes setting up of terminal facility at Farakka, procurement and operation of inland barges and transhipper at sea for loading of imported coal to barges from the mother vessel.